



PATENT APPLICATION

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Atsushi HIKITA

Application No.: 10/717,538

Filed: November 21, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: OHT-0022

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 1775

Confirmation No.: 7981

For: DECORATIVE MOLDED OBJECT HAVING COLOR DESIGN IMAGE AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No fee is required. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits is issued, no fee is required in view of the statement below (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).
- a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).



b. No item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2). The Certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) is attached hereto.

The Patent Office is **NOT AUTHORIZED** to charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p). However, **ONLY IF** a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application has been mailed prior to filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Patent Office is authorized to charge \$180.00 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d)(2) and 1.17(p) in view of the statement above under 37 CFR §1.97(e). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.



2. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Dated: June 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

David T. Nikaido
Registration No.: 22,663

Carl Schaukowitch
Registration No.: 29,211

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
1233 20th Street, N.W. Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353
DC154273



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/717,538-Conf. #7981
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	November 21, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Atsushi Hikita
				Art Unit	1775
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	OHT-0022

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AA		US-2001/0020973-A1	09-13-2001	Masanori Akada et al.	
AB		US-2002/0063109-A1	05-30-2002	Koichi Hayashizaki	
AC		US-4,042,090	08-16-1977	Sadao Hasebe et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
BA		EP 1367618-A2	12-03-2003	Hiroshi Arai et al.	
BB		EP 1102292-A2	05-23-2001	Takao Shimizu et al.	
BC		EP-0419236-A2	03-27-1991	Hirokatsu Imamura et al.	
BD		JP-06071784	03-15-1994	Ikeda Naoto	
BE		EP-0977225-A2	02-02-2000	Takao Shimizu et al.	
BF		EP-1081728-A2	03-07-2001	Toru Kimura	
BG		EP-0803374-A2	10-29-1997	Bo Liu et al.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
CA		European Search Report dated March 12, 2004			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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